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Date: October 12, 1999

By: _____

Kay L. Gaviglio

Docket No. GCL266-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application:)

Fernando Valle et al.)

Group Art Unit: 1652

Serial No.: 08/940,692)

Examiner: R. Prouty

Filed: September 30, 1997)

For: Application of Glucose Transport Mutants for)
Production of Aromatic Pathway Compounds)

AMENDMENT UNDER C.F.R. § 1.116

Box DAC

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed March 31, 1997, Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the following comments and amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete Claim 32, without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

23. (once amended) A mutant host cell [useful for increasing PEP availability to enhance carbon flow into a metabolic pathway of said host cell wherein said] comprising a metabolic pathway which uses PEP as a precursor or intermediate of metabolism, said host cell characterized by:

- (a) being phenotypically Pts-/glu+;
- (b) requiring galactose permease activity to transport glucose; and



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